

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1862.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee for its good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications. All business letters for this office should be addressed to "THE TRIBUNE," New-York.

In the present critical condition of Gen. McClellan and his gallant army, and thus of the country, we do not feel justified in allowing ourselves and our assistants the National Holiday that we have never till now failed to enjoy in the twenty-one years that this journal has been issued. The TRIBUNE will be published to-morrow, as usual, but no Evening Editions will be issued to-day—the Morning paper being forwarded to our Evening subscribers instead.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

Yesterday was a day of intense excitement. It has had few equals in this country. The ambiguous utterances of the morning papers—the sudden silence of the Government—the evident restraint of comment—the ill-concealed anxiety of those who ought to be at ease—the impetuous call for men—the erratic movements of cabinet officers—the restiveness of the people under all this apparently designed mystification—all conspired to raise a fever in the public mind of unequalled fervor. We were called upon, early in the morning, to give an extra in addition, a dispatch from Fort Monroe of most unsatisfactory character. It represented that a gunboat had arrived from "the scene of action yesterday (Monday) ten miles above City Point;" it went on to say that "that division [what division?] had fought four days, and retreated 17 miles." If "that division" was a portion of McClellan's right wing, the 17 miles is easily understood. The dispatch jumps at once to the fight of "yesterday" (Monday), and says it was terrific, the enemy having three to one—the old, old story. It was begun by our land forces, who fought four hours; then our gunboats got in range, and gave the Rebels much trouble; they stood it for two hours, and then retired. Then we are told that our men took many cannon and 2,000 prisoners—among them Gen. Magruder. (Most excellent news, if true.) All this took place at Turkey Creek, bend or bridge, about 10 miles above City Point. Seventeen miles of retreat from this place would bring our army down to the place—Harrison's Bar—where McClellan had his headquarters (so says a later dispatch) on Tuesday. But then the Fort Monroe correspondent abruptly adds that "the retreat of the Rebels last evening (that's Monday) was with great disorder, and their loss has been very heavy, much greater, it is thought, than ours." But he adds that nothing definite is known about losses. And he immediately adds, with sublime disregard of time, place or continuity, that McClellan had to spike his siege guns and leave them on the field, the nature of the ground rendering their removal impossible.—Upon this mass of unintelligible stuff, the public were left to ruminant until late in the afternoon. There was almost universal gloom. Now and then a credulous believer in the immaculate talent of a great man, would oracularly pronounce "all right—only keeping back the good news for the 4th of July," but his followers were few and far between; even the ardent hope which has so long sustained us flagged, and was fast giving way to despair.—From this thickening gloom the city was partially roused at 3 o'clock by a dispatch hailing from Washington, reading as follows: "A dispatch from Gen. McClellan, just received at the War Department, dated 'From Berkeley, Harrison's Bar, July 2, 5:30 p. m.' states that he has succeeded in getting his army to that place, on the banks of James River, and has lost but one gun, which had to be abandoned last night (Tuesday) because it broke down. That an hour and a half ago the rear of the wagon train was within a mile of the camp and only one wagon abandoned; that we had a severe battle yesterday (Tuesday); that we beat the enemy badly, the men fighting even better than before; that all the men are in good spirits, and that the re-enforcements from Washington have arrived." It is needless to say that this, brief and unsatisfactory as it is, gave most welcome relief to a million of anxious minds. The army was not beaten—so they reasoned; all was—or would be—right. Yet the statement of Gen. McClellan that no guns were lost was inexplicable; other reports, apparently truthful, said he had lost dozens; but this latest news came from the War Department—they could not deceive the people—certainly not intentionally. So, opinion was rather in favor of the latest dispatch, and the painful suspense of the people was measurably relieved. In this state of mind, the city entered upon the eve of the National Anniversary. But the customary hilarity was not manifest; the evening was cold and gloomy, and even the irrepressible patriotism of Young America was tame and spiritless. Our next telegraphic advice, in order of date, are from Fort Monroe, July 2, indorsed, "By Mail to the Associated Press." The reports from the army by this correspondent are to Tuesday, inclusive. That was the sixth day of continuous fighting all along our lines—a fight that for destructiveness of life has no parallel in history. Our killed, wounded, and missing are estimated at 15,000 to 20,000. This letter denies the loss of the siege guns, stating that nearly all were brought safely off. Gen. McClellan and his staff agree that the army has got into a much better position by the great movement. Some of our regiments have suffered terribly; for instance, the 5th New-York lost 300, for most heroic fighting. The enemy everywhere outnumbered us; they had 185,000 effective men—McClellan not more than 95,000. Next we had a dispatch from Baltimore; but it is suppressed at the dictation of Mr. Sandford, Military Supervisor of Telegraphic Dispatches. From other sources we learn that Gen. Shields's army went up James River on Tuesday to reinforce McClellan. Our Washington dispatches state that a cavalry officer from Fredericksburg reported heavy cannonading heard all day on Wednesday, in the direction of Richmond; that at night the sky was strongly illuminated with lurid light, and on Thursday (yesterday morning) there was a dense smoke to the south, as if from some great conflagration. The death of Stonewall Jackson and also of Gen. Barnwell Elliott of South Carolina is announced in a Richmond paper. From this sketch of the day's dispatches, and from the letters of our correspondents (elsewhere printed), the reader can get all the light available to the public in regard to the great contest before Richmond. But the manner in which information has been conveyed, and the hesitancy on all sides about

publication, is not calculated to inspire a lively faith in any statement.

—We have heard of much horrible barbarity on the part of the Rebels in this war, but we cannot credit the latest report, viz: That 55 scouts from Gen. Mitchell's army, recently captured by the Rebels, were taken to Atlanta, Ga., and hung. For the honor of human nature we hope the story is untrue. If true, taken with the firing upon the men saved by the explosion of our gunboat in White River, it foreshows a fearful balance against the Rebels which may be settled some day.

—By orders from the War Department, the entire authority over the recruiting service of this State is placed in the hands of Gov. Morgan, including all supplies of ordnance stores, all expenses of outfitting and mustering the troops, and all powers of commissions, organization, &c. This leaves the State authority untrammelled until the regiments are mustered into the service of the United States Government, and prevents any clashing between the authorities.

—Rebel papers give very brief accounts of the commencement of the great battle on Thursday last. They call it the beginning of the great conflict that is to decide the fate of this Capital, and perhaps of the Confederacy itself. The first attack was made by Gen. Hill's division, near Meadow Bridge. They claim a complete victory, of course.

—Dispatches at Boston give painful accounts of the losses of Massachusetts regiments in the late battle. One Colonel was killed and one wounded; the 2nd Regiment lost 350; the 9th, 211; and the 11th suffered heavily.

—Little Rhody responds to the call for troops most nobly. Her patriotic Governor was on duty at Manassas, and could not sign with the others; but he telegraphs at once, "Add my name to your memorial." Every loyal Governor is now on the record.

—At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, yesterday, resolutions were unanimously adopted in favor of the most full and cordial support of the Government in the present trying crisis.

—Letters from Memphis, and extracts from late Southern papers, are printed on the third page of this sheet.

GENERAL NEWS.

—In Senate yesterday the bill to remunerate volunteers for loss of baggage at Hatteras Inlet was passed. A motion to adjourn to Monday was voted down—Yeas 8; Nays 27. Another to adjourn to Saturday was lost, 14 to 22. The bill to change Judicial Districts was passed after amending it so as to make Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana the Fifth Circuit; Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin the Sixth Circuit; and Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, and Minnesota the 11th Circuit. The bill to establish Provisional Governments in certain instances was taken up, but postponed until to-day. The Arizona Territorial bill was postponed until December. The bill confirming grants of land to Iowa and Minnesota was passed. On the bill prescribing certain rules for the United States Judiciary, Mr. Sumner's amendment that evidence should not be rejected because of the testifier's color, was rejected—Yeas 14; Nays 21.

In the House, a bill providing for the trial or discharge of State prisoners was reported, and ordered to be printed. A bill was passed providing that, in States in insurrection, the salaries of Postmasters can be paid for delinquencies within two years after the courts are reopened. The House then took up the Confiscation bill, as returned from the Senate, with an amendment in the form of a substitute, and on a vote non-concurred—Yeas 8, Nays 123. So there must be a Conference Committee, unless the Senate recede, which is not likely. The Michigan and Illinois Canal Enlargement bill—rejected a few days ago—was reconsidered, and postponed to December. A Kentucky member, snarling under Gen. Hunter's exhortation, asked but did not obtain leave to introduce a resolution declaring the sentiments contained in Maj. Gen. Hunter's letter relative to the arming of slaves (read in the House yesterday) are eminently unjust to an American Congress, an insult to the American people and to our brave soldiers, and justify the condemnation of this body.

—The Democracy of Vermont—a mild type of the species—held a Convention on Wednesday, and nominated for Governor, Benjamin H. Smalley of Swanton; for Lieutenant-Governor, E. C. Chapin of Rutland, and for Treasurer, George Washburne of Springfield. Their resolves assert that the preservation of the Democratic organization is necessary to the safety of the country; urge that it is the duty of citizens to support the Government; regret the existence of Slavery; assert that the Abolition opinions of a portion of the North have tended greatly to produce the present war, and condemn the Abolitionists both in and out of Congress. It is said that there was a very slim attendance and a want of harmony. As the usual vote of this State is something more than three Republicans to one of all other sorts, the imminent danger of the election of the above ticket is not apparent. They doubtless fully realized their impotence when they framed resolutions that belie the history and insult the intelligence of this gallant State—the first adopted child of the Republic.

—Attorney-General Bates having decided the Secretary Floyd's acceptances of the drafts of Russell, Majors & Waddell, do not make those drafts binding upon the Government, the holders come before Congress for relief, and argue strongly against this opinion.

—The Department of Agriculture is to go into operation immediately, with Isaac Newton of Penn. as Commissioner, and Richard C. McCormick of New-York as chief clerk.

—Those of our readers who have leisure to celebrate this day, will find a full synopsis of places to go to, and what to buy, on the seventh page.

STATE OF THE MARKETS.

The stock market opened in a panic under news from Gen. McClellan's army. Since the day after the fight at Bull Run, the street has not seen such a disposition to throw stocks overboard at any price. The largest fall was in Government securities, and parties were found timid enough to sell Treasury Notes bearing 7.30 per cent interest at 90, and take in payment Treasury Notes bearing no interest at par. The Coupon 6s sold down to 100, and afterward in the street to 95, but soon recovered to 100 (100). In the futures there was an avalanche of stocks thrown on the market for cash, at a general decline of 2 to 3 per cent. After the Board there was a stronger, and at the Second Board the quotations showed considerable recovery. There was a strong disposition to buy the leading securities, and Treasury Notes, 7.30s, advanced to 103 bid—a recovery of 4 per cent of the loss of the morning. Gold demand notes were 102 1/2, and were the only Government securities which were sustained during the panic. There was a recovery in the futures of 1 1/2 per cent, and in the arm market. The Board of Brokers, in view of the excited state of the Stock Market, have reached the resolution suspending the business on Saturday, so that business may be conducted as usual on that day. The market for foreign bills has been excited by the advance in gold, of which about \$600,000 had been sold at the Board at 110 1/2. Sterling sold in the morning at 127 for leading bankers, but was lower at the close. Freight rates were more active, and rates are decidedly firm for Grain to Great Britain. The business of the Sub-Treasury was Receipts, \$4,278,724.92 for Customs, \$2,296,000. Payments, \$1,118,192.92; Balance, \$10,070,855.25. Indebtedness Certificates have sold at 99 1/2. The Money market was active early in the day, in consequence of the changing of loans and the annual call for margins. In commercial paper there was nothing doing. Some names would pass readily at 4 1/2 per cent, but that class seldom finds the street. The general rate may be quoted from 6 1/2 per cent. Four arrivals last Friday, and the market for Western and State is more active at steady rates, sales \$1,500,000. Cash advances firm and in better request. Southern steady and active.

active. Six Four steady and in moderate request. Cash Metals active and moderate, but rather quiet. Port is in better supply, and the market is decidedly lower. The futures are more active and in better demand, but steady. Flour and wheat are in good request. The wheat market is better supplied, and a more active market for future delivery, sales 100,000 bushels. Bacon and Bacon lard quiet, prices moderate. Cotton in good demand. Rice has active, in limited supply and time. Corn in fair supply and steady, but more active.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Ninety-six years ago this day, the representatives of our fathers, in Congress assembled at Philadelphia, united in that immortal Declaration of Independence of the United States of America which they deliberately placed on this immutable basis:

"WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL; THAT THEY ARE ENDOUED BY THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS; THAT AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS; THAT, TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS, GOVERNMENTS ARE INSTITUTED AMONG MEN, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED;" &c., &c.

—So broad and solid a basis was never before laid by the founders of a new political fabric; hence no predecessor ever exerted so wide and beneficent a sway over the destinies of mankind. The American Revolution derives its chief significance and glory from its clear and hearty recognition of the equal and inalienable Rights of Man as Man.

Had our country been uniformly faithful to the principles thus boldly enunciated, her career would have been the grandest, her people the happiest on the globe. Unfortunately, she soon faltered and ultimately fell. Her Revolutionary patriot statesmen, with scarcely an honorable exception, perceived and maintained that she was bound by her fundamental principle to achieve and secure the liberty of every one even of the humblest and most despised of her people, her children. Franklin, Washington, Jefferson, Laurens, Madison, all held that Slavery was condemned by our struggle for Liberty and Independence, and that we must abolish it at the earliest practicable moment. Fatal qualification! Soon, peace, security, cloth, ease, luxury, the greed of power and of gold, weaned us from the grand truth asserted by the fathers. "Another king arose, who knew not Joseph." Vainly did the philanthropist remonstrate, the patriot plead, and the slave hold up appealingly his galling shackles: our Scribes and Pharisees have too long wrested Law and Gospel to the cruel ends of oppression, and this Nation—which was born amid the expectant shouts of the scourged and down-trodden, has for two generations been the accomplice of man-thieves, the stay of the tyrant and oppressor.

The long-forborne punishment of our National sin is at length upon us.

A Nation distracted and convulsed by treason—a Country devastated, a People decimated by furious Civil War—the vultures of Aristocracy and Despotism gathering and circling impatiently for the expected feast on the remains of what was once their chief terror—such are the aspects that greet the Eighty-Second Anniversary of our Independence.

The clouds are heavy and dark, but the heavens are clear and bright above them. Let us struggle and trust.

God save the Republic!

BEFORE RICHMOND.

The painful suspense of the last few days was, in a measure, relieved yesterday by the intelligence received from Gen. McClellan's army. For nearly a week that army has fought against overpowering numbers, and though compelled to fall back, has fought bravely, repulsing the enemy, from time to time, with great slaughter, nowhere permitting its flank to be turned or its front to be broken. Retiring by a dangerous and difficult night march, through forests and swamps, exposed to constant attack, harassed by an enemy hovering about them and constantly re-enforced by innumerable and fresh troops, our brave soldiers made their way through almost insurmountable difficulties, to the point aimed at on James River, at Turkey Bridge. From this point they have fallen further back to one, it is to be presumed, more defensible, and where they can count with more certainty upon the aid of the fleet. Here, at Harrison's Bar, at the last accounts they have made a stand, and intrenching themselves, with the gunboats behind them, will be able to get the rest they so much need, and choose their own time for a renewal of the fight. We know, on the authority of some distinguished officers who reached Washington two days ago, that the line of defense from the Chickahominy to the James River is considered absolutely stronger than it was ten days ago.

Hitherto we have been assured of the presence of only a small number of gunboats in the neighborhood of the army on the James River. It seems to have escaped attention, in the universal anxiety, that this is but a small portion of the fleet which can go to the assistance of the land forces. No doubt they are all, at this moment, where they can render effective service. How many guns can thus be brought upon the advancing Rebels—should they venture to advance—it is not prudent to say; but the public may rest assured that they constitute a formidable re-enforcement. Such re-enforcement, no doubt, was needed, and to avail himself of it was, without doubt, one of the motives which prompted a proposed change in the base of operations, and the falling back, when that became necessary, upon James River. It is natural enough, perhaps, to seek, when a disaster occurs, somebody to whom the exclusive blame may be imputed; and it is equally

natural that much of that blame should be attributed unreasonably. Before we come to any fixed opinion on this matter of re-enforcements, on which there is much unexplored ground, it is as well that the public should be informed that not much, if any, less than 40,000 men have been added to the Army of the Potomac within a month; that still other, and large, re-enforcements work some time since ordered forward, and are now on their way, not far off; and that probably in the military plans of Gen. McClellan, of which, of course, nobody but himself and the Government could know anything, reliance for their accomplishment was placed upon this very conjunction with a large naval force. Before unquestioned blame is attached anywhere, let us be quite sure that we know all the facts. Re-enforcement was to be made, at a given time, to both sides; if the enemy, in their desperation, were the speedier in their action—the speedier, because their facilities in a given case were the greater—let us remember that the greater haste is not always the most speed. It is their turn to-day; it may be ours to-morrow. War never brings unvarying success to one side only; else there would be no war.

We do not mean, of course, to wink out of sight the serious character of recent events on the Peninsula, or to blind ourselves or our readers to the fact of the check our arms have received there. But these ought not to discourage or overwhelm us. On the contrary, they should nerve us to new determination and new effort. Let the united voice of the people assure the Government that they are eager to give it their confidence and support, demanding only that they shall save the nation in the only way it can be saved—by the SUPPRESSION OF THE REBELLION. Let there be no such word as FAIL.

OUR COUNTRY'S CALL.

The President of the United States, acting in concert with the Governors of all the loyal States, has called upon the country for Three Hundred Thousand more Volunteers, mainly Infantry, to meet and defeat the Rebel legions now outnumbering and pressing upon the wasted Union armies already in the field. We entreat every patriot to ponder well this appeal to his loyalty, and judge as to the response which it becomes him to make.

There are some who say, We thought the Government had men enough, and had stopped enlistments on that account. It had men enough three months ago, as things then were, to have broken by this time the back of the Rebellion. But the traitor chiefs, realizing their extremity, took the last desperate step that usurpation and tyranny could devise. They ordered a levy en masse of all the Whites and Mulattoes in the South between 18 and 55 years of age, and sent their myrmidons into every county and neighborhood to enforce this decree. By brute force and terror, they have filled their ranks with Three Hundred Thousand Conscripts, a large proportion of them true and hearty Unionists, but lacking power to resist this edict. They are dragged into the ranks of Treason and made to fight, kill and die in its cause, through simple terror of the swords and muskets that gleam threateningly around them. The Government has found it necessary to call Three Hundred Thousand Patriots into the field to meet this new army of conscript Rebels and victims. This is probably the very last call that will be made on the loyalty of the North, as the Rebels have now done their worst and must henceforth grow weaker and weaker.

When this Rebellion first broke out, it had not more than One Hundred Thousand abettors, mainly made up of the old Calhoun "Chivalry," and the negro-traders of the South. The gamblers and criminals of the Southern cities, smelling a prospect of riot and plunder, rushed eagerly into the ranks of the conspirators, in order to achieve power and impunity. Those of the slaveholding caste and its abettors who had not before listened favorably to the Calhoun sophists, were gradually drawn into the plot, through fear of being left behind by the popular wave, and stigmatized as "Lincolmites" and Abolitionists. Thus class after class was drawn into the vortex, by ambition, by hopes of rapine, by terror, and finally by wholesale lying, until ten States and fragments of four others are now in the clutches of the head-traitors, and are doing their utmost to divide and destroy the country.

Patriots! Unionists! lovers of Freedom! this must not be! You must heroically prevent it! Resolve now that the needed force shall be raised promptly and fully—you that are of proper age and full vigor must volunteer, while the infirm or superannuated must freely contribute of their substance to sustain the families of those who peril their lives for the country! Resolve to do it at once!

Hours are precious. Some great disaster may befall while we are getting ready to avert it. You who can possibly be spared and are able to fight, let not a day be lost in offering your services to your distracted, imperiled country.

There have been discussions concerning the

proper policy to be pursued by the Government in prosecuting the contest with the Rebels, and as to who among the soldiers of the Republic are best qualified to lead her armies. We have participated in these discussions—freely, earnestly, faithfully—earnestly striving to serve and save our country, and to that end alone. Now, discussion must give place to action, and all must join hands in one resolute effort to right the Ship of State and warp her off the breakers that roar beneath her lee. All hands to the rescue!

To Republicans above all, we appeal for the most devoted efforts in this crisis. They may wish, as we have done, that this or that were different—they may hope, as we do, that it soon may be. But whether the Government take the course we think best or another, let it be seen and felt that, in this hour of trial and of darkness, we were true to our duty and our loved and honored country. Let us show that she was never so dear to us as when aristocrats and traitors were conspiring to work her ruin, and had even raised the shout of exultation implying that their end was achieved and the Union no more!

THE TRIAL OF TOOMBS.

It is related of the illustrious author of "Faust" that during one of his youthful depressions—it was, we think, of the amorous variety—he determined upon suicide, and provided himself with the necessary dagger; but upon finding that the operation would be painful, he abandoned the bare bodkin business, and consented to live. Gen. Robert Toombs, of the Secession Service, ought, by all the laws which regulate rebellion, to give up cotton-growing; but he finds the temptation to keep on with the cultivation too strong for him, and leaves his blacks at work in Georgia, while he militates in Virginia. Randolph County, Ga., instantly lapses into a patriotic perspiration. The Randolph County Committee of Public Safety immediately communicate sagaciously with Toombs in Richmond. They tell him that he is a very wicked Confederate General. That he has no right to cultivate cotton. That his avarice is greater than his patriotism. That his negroes are wanted for military purposes. What follows? Ferocious reply from Toombs. "cowardly miscreants." Also "robbers." Declines to furnish "niggers" for the Rebel service. Says he may be "robbed," but he cannot be "intimidated." Isn't it evident that Toombs's "patriotism" doesn't, so to speak, come up to the scratch?—that, happen what may, he will be the last man to commit suicide?

How the Committee of Public Safety afore-said received this most disparaging telegram, we are not informed. How they relished the new title of "cowardly miscreants," we may easily surmise. It wasn't a relish at all, but a disrelish altogether. "You poor, miserable, rascally, blustering, domineering, dirty scoundrels," says Toombs: "you vile, plundering, interloping vagabonds, you 'cannot intimidate me.'" And this to men to whom at that identical moment the "public safety" of Randolph County was committed. It is curious. Toombs speaks to these men as if he knew them, and knew them to be, from their heads to their heels, poor specimens of white humanity. We can imagine him talking in precisely the same way to his own private collection of blacks.

That he would, if he could, truss up the august Committee, and give to each member of it a round dozen of stripes, with the accompanying pickle, we do also believe. That, after his soldiering is over, should he get back to Georgia—which is n't probable—he will shoot one or two Committee-men, is very probable. His appetite is for the pleasures of Secession—he has none for the pains—just as a man may never weary of talking of the weariness of life, but may shrink from the alleviating rope or ratbane. And we have called attention to the precautions and cotton-limited patriotism of this Toombs, because we believe that Secession brag is altogether too successful in its demands upon Northern credulity. When a Southern orator says, with all the coarse fluery of unbridled rhetoric, that he is ready to brave all—ruin, wounds and death—for the sake of the cause, those who are not blinded by his lightning language, nor intimidated by his bovine roar, may shake their heads and laugh; but the sagacious will still ask whether, when a man goes into a revolt, avowedly for the sake of negroes, he will continue in revolt when continuance will take all his negroes away from him. To put the matter in another shape, it is urged, even by Members of Congress, that meddling with "the institution," by confiscation, or otherwise, will so infuriate the Secessionist that he will keep on forever in his delusion, doing the most dreadful things, long after the motive for doing them has ceased to operate: i. e., he will fight for slave-holding though slave-holding has become to him as impossible as flying. We do not believe it. It is grossly unphilosophical so to reason; and those who do reason so, whether at "Conservative" meetings or in the columns of newspapers, show more panic than pluck. Confiscation may appear to some to be as savage a remedy as cautery; but sometimes it is only cautery that will do the business. Selfishness, of which Mr. Toombs gives us such a charming specimen, is the main cause of man-owning, and that is the main cause of all our political mischiefs. When we hear a planter talking about ethnology and the inferiority of races, and so ascending and descending the whole gamut of solemn twaddle, we always laugh, at least inwardly; because we know that he approves of Slavery, out of no sort of respect for Moses or St. Paul, but because it gives him a coat to wear, toddies to drink, tobacco to smoke, a bed to lie upon, and a roof to cover him. When he is cornered, out comes the truth. "Stop raising cotton!" cries Toombs; "lend you my niggers! I will see you hanged first!" What a dear, delightful, out-spoken, frank and candid Toombs!

What a charming Pro-Slavery Doctor of Divinity he would make, to be sure! He isn't a man to give up all he is fighting for, merely for the sake of winning the battle. "My niggers!" no, I tell you! Am I fighting and bleeding and dying, merely that a Committee of Public Safety may carry off my niggers? As well give 'em to Abe Lincoln, at once! Let them alone! Well, dear Toombs, we cannot say that we blame you for your perfectly natural views of matters and things in general. Let us embrace!—we are speaking now as if we were a member of the Conservative Congressional Caucus—let us embrace, dear Toombs!

"Come to my arms, my own true-hearted!"

Not a negro of the Toombs brand shall be touched! Male and female, house-hands, field-hands, mechanics, old, middle-aged, young, yellow or black, they are all under the palladium of the Constitution—God bless it!—and they shall all be taken care of—only, good old fellow! you'll come back into the Union; that's a dear, amiable, charming Toombs! That is, Toombs is supposed to be such an unmitigated ass that he can be coaxed into the Union again merely by promising him something, which he, *vi et armis*, declares that the Union is too weak to secure to him. On the other hand, Toombs having lost all his dear blacks, having discovered that Disunion is just as powerless to keep them, and that Rebellion has depopulated his plantation, will have had sundry arguments in favor of keeping quiet actually knocked into his head, and will certainly see the necessity of making the best of a bad matter; or if he does not, Toombs Junior, who hopes to live a little longer in this pleasant world, assuredly will. To take any other course with Toombs is to put a premium upon treason, and he knows it and chinkles over our debates. If you would crush rebellion, hit at its master passion an earnest and annihilating blow. But if you mean only to play with it for the benefit of commissioned officers and contractors—why that is quite another matter, and one which we do not care to discuss.

THE UNION SAVED.

A correspondent of The Cincinnati Gazette, writing from Pulaski, Tenn., on the 24th ult., says:

"A gentleman, whose acquaintance I made since my arrival, informed me of a circumstance, which shows, like many others of daily occurrence, how much more some of our army officers are exercised about the protection of Slavery than they are about the success of our arms. After Morgan captured the wagon-train at Pulaski, some months or two since, he was about to pounce upon another, as your readers will remember, when the teamsters and the guard formed a column of the wagons, put the animals in line, and using their wagons for field-work, repulsed their assailants. But the timely warning which caused them to make this successful defense was given by a negro slave. As a reward for his services, this fellow is now confined in the county jail. I think the Government might justly afford to buy Sambo, in this case, and set him free. If his master is ever so bitter a Rebel, you know it would smother 'the Constitution' and Rebel sympathizers like powder to confound him."

FREE HOMESTEADS.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sir: I discern from various sources that the terms of the Homestead Law are not generally understood. Most persons seem to think that they cannot avail themselves of it till next year. That is a mistake; they can come on at once. The Act takes effect on the first day of January, 1863, but settlers can come on at once, and hold their lands by pre-emption till that time, and then take advantage of the new act. It is very important that this should be understood, so our friends are being entered up by speculators. Will you explain this matter to the ten million who, directly and indirectly, read The Tribune? Yours, ASA C. CALL, Atlanta, Iowa, June 19, 1862.

—We have explained this already, but we print Mr. Call's letter to place the truth beyond doubt.

[E.]

A Military correspondent writes us a justification of Gen. Fremont's decision to cross the Alleghenies where he did, instead of from Franklin to Harrisonburg, placing himself between Jackson's superior force and Staunton, a Rebel stronghold, whence a Railroad runs to Richmond, whereby any number of Rebels might have been thrown in a few hours to envelop Fremont's little army, and compel its surrender. We do not deem it necessary to defend Gen. Fremont for a decision as to which no one seriously assails him. The simple fact that he had no provisions at or near Franklin, and was compelled to move northward in order to obtain a meager supply, is conclusive. We are assured that Gen. Fremont's course was satisfactory to his superiors so soon as they were made acquainted with his reasons for it.

The Nashville Union copies the editorial of The Richmond Dispatch exulting over and praising Ben. Wood's late Secession speech printed as if delivered in the House, and says:

"The Union men of the South feel the deepest anxiety that the loyal men of the North should indignantly spurn those leaders among them who, having long associated with the Southern Disunionists, have imbibed their dangerous and corrupt and desperate feelings. The most dangerous foes the Republic has are those Northern politicians who cloak their Royal aspirations under the specious name of conservative and devoted themselves to warring against the Administration and all its policy, and to proving that our armies must pay strict regard to the 'Constitutional rights' of traitors who are in arms against us. We invoke loyal men of the North to cast aside all such leaders. They are but waiting for an opportunity to sell themselves to the enemy. Fortune has bought them already."

Our correspondents who write calling attention to the failure of every attempt to raise cheers for the President at the late Wood & Brooks meeting, are informed that we consider this the least creditable feature of the entire performance. The great body of that meeting were intensely hostile to the President—had voted against him, and meant to vote against him every chance they could get—and disdained to utter fraudulent and hypocritical cheers. We honor them for this if for nothing else.

A trustworthy friend writes us that, shortly after the battle of Bull Run, a clergyman of high character known to the writer met Gen. Robert Anderson, of Fort Sumter fame, and, in a conversation with him concerning the war, the General spoke of Fremont, who was soon to assume command of the Western Department, and made substantially the following remark: "I detect the political principles of Fremont, but, as a military man, I doubt whether he has his equal or superior in this country or the world."